One Hundred: Life Reflections of an Ascetic Muslim

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"These reflective quotes, though short in wording bare deep and insightful meanings, that will move any Muslim that reads them- by the permission of Allah "- Abubakar Egal, Masters Student from The Islamic University of Madinah, Saudi Arabia.

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CONTENTS

1	Foreword	1
2	Introduction	5
3	The text of the (matn) book	7
4	Final prayer	23
5	Final word	24

Foreword

As somebody who Allah- the Mighty and Majestic, blessed, guided to Islaam and granted the ability to follow the Sunnah/ way of His Messenger- may peace and salutations be upon him- upon the understanding of the earliest generations of Muslims, and then was favoured with a decade long journey of seeking knowledge in Madinah, the City of the Prophet; I have always appreciated any work in the

English language that inspires and motivates our young Muslim readers to this Pure Creed & Ideology, and the Merciful Methodology that comes with it.

The origin of this book that is in-front of us today; are inspirational and motivational sayings that my brother in Islaam and a dear friend of mine: Edris Kibalama gathered during his decade-long spiritual journey.

These reflective sayings, though short in wording bear deep and insightful meanings that will move any Muslim that reads them- by the permission of Allah.

All of the quotes that have been gathered by our Noble brother bear roots in the Qur aan & the sunnah- we discussed with our brother to add in footnotes in the next edition including some of the

Noble Verses of the Qur aan and the Words of our Beloved Prophet, Muhammad- peace be upon him, so that this book will be of greater benefit- by the permission of Allah.

May Allah bless this book, and reward its author, and make it of benefit to all those that come across it and its readers, and we ask Allah to grant us both success and Divine guidance, for indeed He is the Grantor of that. Ameen.

All Praises belong to Allah, and peace be upon his final Messenger Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him

Abu Bakr Al Khalafee, Masters Student from The Islamic University of Madinah, Saudi Arabia

Thursday 5th March 2021

Night of Jumu'ah, 20th Rajab, 1442 Hijri Calender

INTRODUCTION

In the name of Allah, The Entirely Merciful, The Especially Merciful.

I compiled this book from a combination of 2 books, of which I gathered many reflections and life quotes over many years of pondering over my young adult life, from between the age of about 20 and 30 years old, as I transitioned from my old life of ignorance and misguidance into a life of peace, tranquility and deeper understanding about who I am, but most

importantly, who Our Creator is, and what He wants from me i.e. to Worship Him alone without associating any partners with him whatsoever, The Only One truly deserving of Worship; which finally led me to knowing my life purpose and spiritual calling hence this book in front of you as a result of this concerted effort on my part, and as a prelude to the person I am today, edging towards the middle of my life on this temporal worldly abode, by the will of Allah.

THE TEXT (MATN) OF THE BOOK

All Praises abundant and plentiful belong to Allah, and peace be upon his final Messenger Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him

We will get straight into the life reflections, May Allah guide all of us Ameen

1. Immerse yourself in the oceans of knowledge, and hope to remain with at least a drop when you are out

2. You will never face justice until you are just, and the most important justice for yourself is

establishing the Tawheed (True Monotheism) of Allah

3. Change will never come, until you change yourself.

4. One day you can be guided, the next you can be misguided. What is upon you is to pray and never give up hope of Allah's mercy

5. It is upon you to reprimand yourself when you see you are not good today as you were yesterday. What did you do differently, what sin did you commit? Repent and resume the path of righteousness.

6. Work to remove all traits of hypocrisy from yourself.

7. Succeed or die trying; that is in-itself success

8. If you have a sincere intention to pursue a particular matter you have succeeded already, as for successful people the vision of the finish line comes before the tedious process

9. If you make an intention sincerely for Allah, the full deed is written down for you even before you bat an eye lid

10. A sincere intention requires a concerted, deliberate effort, continuous, persistent and consistent

11. When it all fails, remember, same goal different approach

12. So many unanswered questions? Pray, all will fall into place, just a matter of time

13. Slow but sure, keep your vision of success and do not waver by the pomp and glitter of illusionary happiness

14. Beware of the enemy's tricks; Yes, beware of the tricks of the devil (Shaytaan)

15. The straight path has many hurdles

16. With the help of Allah, all good(khair) will be achieved

17. The biggest good (khair) is to see the Noble Face of Allah. Oh Allah we ask by your Face to give us Jannah (Paradise)

18. When all the paths to the dunia (worldly life) are blocked, turn back to Allah, The One that provides for you from sources that you can never imagine

19. Life is an illusionary transit, the more you get bogged down in its intricacies, the more confusion you acquire, but the more you turn back to Allah, the clearer the straight path becomes

20. Life is a test. Each person has a tailor- made path to success. Turn back to Allah and your path becomes clearer

21. The paths of darkness are many, while the straight path is one; it is clear as day, and wide to walk upon, and it is found in following the Quran and Prophetic narrations

22. The one who has been guided to the straight path has attained all good (khair), and the one who has been led away from it has only Himself to blame

23. Success is not measured in material gain, but it is in wealth of the heart, pure intentions, and steadfastness upon the path of success

24. If you do not pass a test of Allah, it will be repeated many times until eventually you pass by His will

25. How merciful is Allah who gives His slaves many chances to turn back to Him in repentance

26. Why be concerned what the people think? Turn back to Allah and resume your sincerity to Him

27. Whatever happened to the man with a thousand questions?...he eventually meets someone like minded as himself

28. You can never rise to higher levels of righteousness until you raise your levels of patience

29. Wait, be patient and never tire of being patient

30. Patience is a key ingredient to attaining the gardens of bliss

31. When you realize that knowledge is limitless, your heart further humbles itself to the Most Knowledgeable (Allah)

32. The more sincere you are to Allah, the more Allah opens for you the path to guidance

33. Every so often one must stop what they are doing and remember The One that you are doing it for (Allah)

34. Be sincere, then continue on the path of righteousness

35. After waiting, just wait a little longer

36. Have hope, be patient, the wait will soon be over

37. Be that little seed of hope among buildings of success that will never give up hope until the tree it's destined to be will be

38. True success: As soon as you realise the greatness of your Lord (Allah) above, and the Highness of His Names and attributes and then worship Him correctly to the best of your ability

39. The soul reaches the destination before the mind catches up

40. Judgement day is dawning upon us, prepare

41. When there is so many hurdles in your way, pray and continue on your path

42. Don't get fooled by the pomp and glitter of this temporary abode

43. Be confident, not haughty. There is never a good end for the haughty

44. Those who are fixated on the goal will never live the same life as the many diverted by the seemingly-truthful deceivers

45. It is the end that counts, so always be on guard and live every moment like it is your last

46. Theories can always be proven wrong, divine truth can't. The liars may try to conceal or misguide; however, their efforts are like an ant trying to physically conceal the grandeur of an adjacent mountain

47. Islam is a divinely revealed reality that must be adhered to. All will see on the day of Haqq (truth)

48. Psychology is predominantly based on whimsical theory, suluuk (Orthodox Islamic Spirituality) is a reality from divine revelation

49. There is no greater human understanding of the psyche except through the study of suluuk (Orthodox Islamic spirituality)

50. If you do not strive to align your mind, body, soul, and emotions into near- perfect synchrony, one of them would make a mess of your spiritual journey

51. Do the things you know you should do, and the things you don't know will soon become clear

52. Knowledge is only **potential** power; the one who knows his awaiting journey through and through but doesn't take necessary action is not much different from the one who didn't know the journey at all

53. Victory is for the obedient to Allah

54. Oh seeker of honour, where do you stand in light of the Quran and Sunnah (the way of Prophet Muhammad peace be upon him)

55. Are you up to date with the current news of your own household, which you will be asked, not about the whole world

56. If you believe that studying ends at the acquisition of a certificate, then you do not understand the value of continuous learning

57. Wealth of the heart may reap wealth of this world, but the latter may not reap the wealth of the next

58. Love for the sake of Allah is not displaced, whereas love for other than Him most certainly dissipates

59. Worldly wealth comes to an end, but that of the next endures

60. Pray for a good ending; a bad ending is not worth anything, as those destined for it would wish to be dust.

61. I would rather quench my thirst with a sip of water full of blessings, than with a full cup containing blight

62. To recognise something in this world, you have to know it

63. Lack of knowledge is a breeding ground for deceit

64. To be blessed with little is diametrically opposed to being cursed with a lot

65. With all temporary fixes, they are just that...temporary

66. Focus and eliminate the root cause of the problem, and not solely its effects

67. If you do not have cloth to cut that coat, then ask The One (Allah), who provided you with the ability to ask

68. Difference in perception is not the end all, but difference in belief is

69. Some people sell their souls for a price, however the price cannot buy it back

70. It is better to submit your heart to Allah than to face the penalty for your resistance

71. Fleeing to the mercy of Allah is the fleeing away from His punishment

72. Do what Allah wants you to do and He shall provide you with what you need, and Allah is The Self Sufficient

73. The One who created you knows you better than you know self

74. Self-awareness is unfruitful without the awareness of the One (Allah) who provided it to you in the first place

75. Ample patience is required along the way to success

76. Without patience you can never reach your goal

77. Self-awareness without the awareness of its Bestower (Allah) is like going on a journey without knowledge of your destination

78. In this world it is better to give generously than to withhold unreasonably

79. Generosity accumulates reward hereafter (by the will of Allah)

80. Better to be a tortoise traveling in the correct direction than a hare taking other than the due course

81. Better to be patient than to pay the penalty for haste

82. If what is intended of haste is heed then this is good, but if what is intended is an unthoughtful spur of the moment then even a bull is more proficient

83. The heart is like a satellite dish, the frequency you tune into is the channel you receive

84. Purify your heart before you corrupt your understanding

85. Purify your understanding before your action

86. Purify your action before your reckoning

87. A compound diet requires compound medicines

88. A simple diet is part of the cure

89. Blessings (from Allah) make a plate for one a feast for three

90. The love of Allah grants you all that you require.

91. The love of Allah alone grants you the love you require from others, but love of others alone keeps you away from both

92. You can be at peace when you worship Allah, both at times of ease and at times of difficulties

93. Better to tell the truth then endure, than to lie and miss out on the opportunity to grow

94. Follow the straight path, don't falter

95. Be steadfast, don't waver

96. Be persistent, but most importantly keep a constant eye on the objective

97. To walk a thousand miles to the oasis is better than walking a mile to a mirage

98. Believe without omitting the last 2 letters

99. Patience is the easy way to success, and is the only way

100. Whenever you lose a battle, stop and thank Allah as He is preparing you for the sure victory (Allah willing)

FINAL PRAYER

All Praises abundant and plentiful belong to Allah, and peace be upon his final Messenger Muhammad, peace and blessings be upon him, his family, his companions and all of those that follow them till the day of Judgement.

FINAL WORD

If you liked the reflective quotes, check out in the links below what was part of the fruits of this work:

1. www.edriskibalama.com

A website on creatively designed inspirational quotes images and a portfolio section outlining my achievements thus far.

2. www.muslimhomeschoolsoftware.com

A website on Home Educational Software for children with an Islamised and Ethical curriculum

3. www.intelligentmindsconsultancy.com

A website on IT support, WordPress support and IT consultancy

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